

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 099307
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 099307

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-STADIS////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S STOPOVER IN CAIRO

REF: AMMAN 3508

1. REGRET OUR OVERSIGHT IN NOT INFORMING YOU OF THE SECRETARY'S CAIRO REFUELING STOPOVER. YOU SHOULD, HOWEVER, UNDERSTAND CIRCUMSTANCES. CAIRO WAS NOT ORIGINALLY A PART OF THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE. IT WAS CHOSEN FOR 45 MINUTE REFUELING STOP ON FLIGHT BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND LONDON FOR TECHNICAL REASONS ONLY. EVEN THEN, OWING TO POST-MIDNIGHT HOUR OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL THERE WERE NO PLANS FOR SENIOR LEVEL CONTACT WITH GOE. BUT WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL OFFERED TO COME TO AIRPORT SECRETARY OF COURSE ACCEPTED. WE DO NOT YET HAVE REPORT ON THEIR MEETING BUT IN VIEW
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OF SHORTNESS OF TIME AVAILABLE IT WAS EXPECTED THAT IT WOULD BE LIMITED TO A VERY GENERAL DISCUSSION OF AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST ISSUES.

2. IF YOU THINK USEFUL YOU MAY BRIEF HUSSEIN AS PER ABOVE.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF OUR BRIEFING HUSSEIN ON OUR IDEAS ON

THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, WE CERTAINLY INTEND TO DO THIS AT

THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT. AT THIS STAGE, HOWEVER, OUR IDEAS ARE NOT YET ENTIRELY FIRM AND WE STILL HAVE WORK TO DO WITH THE EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS UNDER THE GENERAL RUBRIC OF ITEM B OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA (GUIDELINES FOR WEST BANK/GAZA NEGOTIATIONS). GIVEN FACT THAT OUR OWN THINKING IS STILL SUBJECT TO DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS, AND SINCE HUSSEIN MADE IT CLEAR HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS STAGE, WE HAVE NOT FELT THAT THE TIME HAS YET COME TO GET INTO DETAILS WITH HUSSEIN. HOWEVER, OUR MAIN CONCERN HAS BEEN AND REMAINS KEEPING OPEN PROSPECT FOR JORDAN'S JOINING THE NEGOTIATIONS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. WE DO NOT WANT TO DO ANYTHING, EITHER BY OMISSION OR BY COMMISSION, THAT WILL MAKE THAT MORE DIFFICULT, AND WILL KEEP IN MIND POINTS YOU MAKE IN REFTEL.

4. WE WILL OF COURSE KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY MAJOR IMPENDING USG MOVES ON THE MIDDLE EAST. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

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